

Farm Bill Activity

New Hampshire NRCS

The State Technical Committee is comprised of both governmental and non-governmental leaders representing environmentally related disciplines. The Committee is chaired by *Rick Ellsmore, the New Hampshire State Conservationist*.

The formation of State Technical Committees was mandated in the 1996 Farm Bill for the purpose of analyzing conservation issues and recommending guidelines for conservation programs. **The Committee provides a public forum for input and facilitates maximum coordination between federal, state, local, and private conservation efforts.**

Resource specialists from State Technical Committee member agencies and organizations serve on sub-groups of the State Technical Committee. These sub-groups report to the Committee with their recommendations. The Committee as a whole makes recommendations to the State Conservationist. The State Conservationist makes the final decisions regarding program management and implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs.

2012 Initial Allocations

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) - \$2,685,077
- High Tunnel Greenhouses – allocated in Washington DC
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program Organic - \$206,616
- Wetlands Reserve Program - \$3,719,345
- Farm & Ranchland Protection Program - \$1,175,087
- Agricultural Management Assistance - \$104,367
- Grassland Reserve Program - \$32,791
- Regional Equity

NRCS National Updates

- 90/10 Solution
- Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative
- Targeting/Initiatives – KFAF, NEC
- BLMP – 100 employees
- New Farm Bill – program consolidation, land eligibility,

Payment Schedules

- 15 Regionalized Practices – 2012 – eventually all will be Regional, some national.
- Conservation Activity Plans – reduced CNMP and Grazing.
- High Tunnels – reduced from \$5.52 to \$3.58 square foot (100%).
- Fence – reduced significantly for woven wire and electric.
- Cover Crops – 3 years (haven't done it for a year or are trying a new variety).
- Soil Health – completed over 100 Cornell Soil Health Assessments (4 workshops coming in the future).

Active Contracts – 9/30/2011

1. Grafton – 176
2. Merrimack – 175
3. Rockingham – 117
4. Strafford – 96
5. Coos – 96
6. Hillsborough – 88
7. Belknap – 88
8. Sullivan – 73
9. Carroll – 69
10. Cheshire - 69

Contracts Obligated by Fiscal Year

- 2003 – 52
- 2004 – 117
- 2005 – 285
- 2006 – 198
- 2007 – 193
- 2008 – 223
- 2009 – 376
- 2010 – 410
- 2011 - 344

Costs of Planned Practices – 2008-2012

1. Grafton – \$1,800,000
2. Merrimack - \$1,750,000
3. Strafford - \$1,350,000
4. Rockingham - \$1,300,000
5. Hillsborough - \$950,000
6. Coos - \$930,000
7. Carroll - \$830,000
8. Belknap - \$630,000
9. Cheshire - \$580,000
10. Sullivan - \$570,000

Most Common Practices

1. Early Successional Habitat
2. Nutrient Management
3. Forest Trails & Landings
4. Upland Wildlife Management
5. Forest Stand Improvement
6. Fencing
7. Stream Crossings
8. Pest Management
9. Conservation Cover
10. Prescribed Grazing

2011 New Hampshire EQIP Breakdown

- Farmstead - \$469,299
- Forestland - \$468,815
- Grazing – \$298,183
- Cropland – \$374,199
- Conservation Activity Plans & High Tunnels were funded at the State level.
- 5% of EQIP funds allocated toward CIG.

New Hampshire Local Work Groups

County	Farmstead	Forestland	Grazing	Cropland
Belknap	30%	40%	10%	20%
Carroll	10%	50%	30%	10%
Cheshire	25%	35%	15%	25%
Coos	25%	25%	25%	25%
Grafton	25%	25%	20%	30%
Hillsborough	20%	25%	15%	40%
Merrimack	40%	30%	15%	15%
Rockingham	40%	20%	20%	20%
Strafford	40%	20%	20%	20%
Sullivan	35%	35%	15%	15%

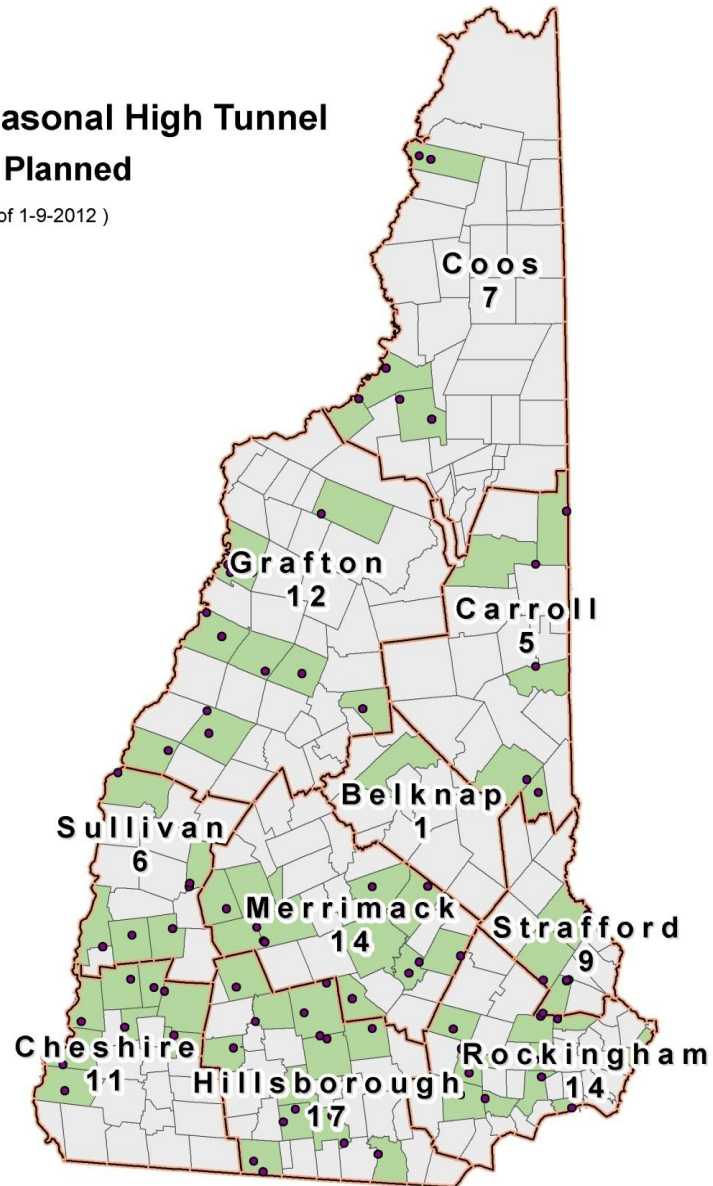
Conservation Activity Plans

- Forest Management – 85 (Grafton 23, Carroll 12, Merrimack 11, Cheshire 10, Belknap 7, Hillsborough 6, Rockingham 5, Coos 5, Strafford 3, Sullivan 3)
- Grazing – 12 (Merrimack 3, Carroll 2, Hillsborough 2)
- CNMP – 7 (Merrimack 2, Rockingham 2)
- Fish & Wildlife – 4 (Carroll 3)
- Energy – 3
- Nutrient Management – 3
- Irrigation - 3

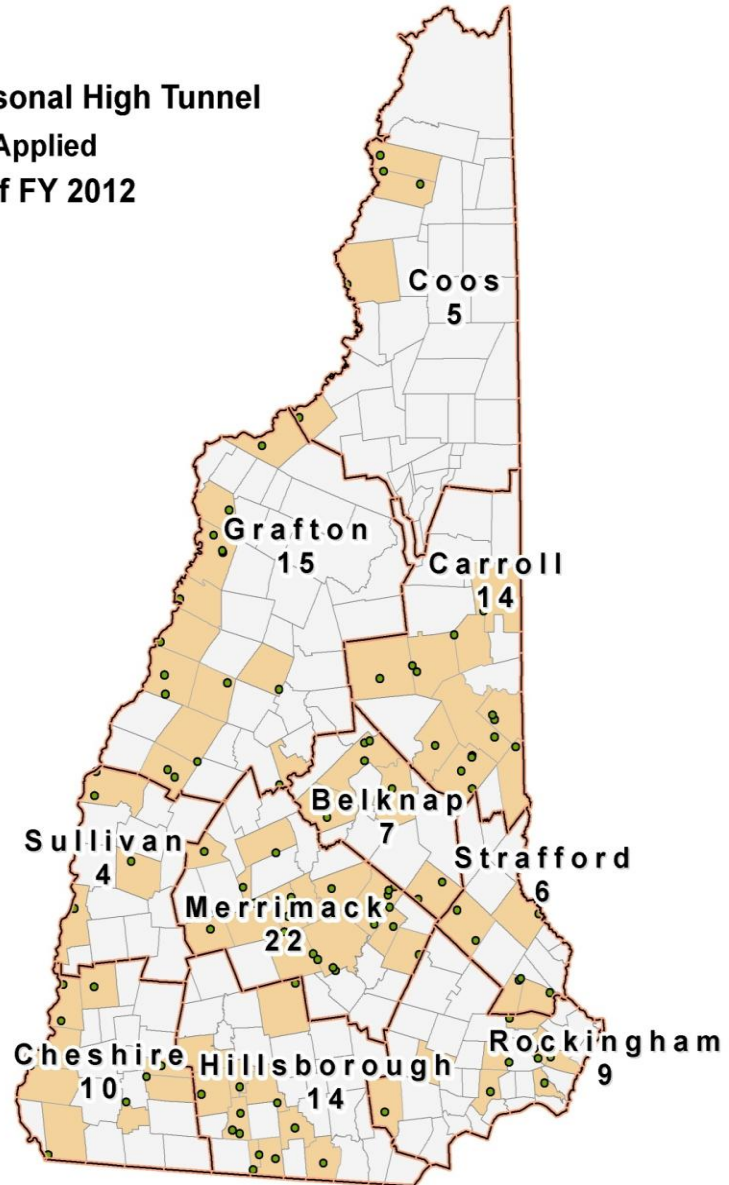
Seasonal High Tunnel

96 Planned

(as of 1-9-2012)



Seasonal High Tunnel
106 Applied
as of FY 2012



WHIP Planned Practices

1. Strafford - \$1,620,000
2. Rockingham - \$750,000
3. Grafton - \$500,000
4. Carroll - \$480,000
5. Coos - \$420,000
6. Merrimack - \$400,000
7. Belknap - \$250,000
8. Hillsborough - \$225,000
9. Sullivan - \$180,000
10. Cheshire - \$150,000

2011 NE/NY Forestry Initiative

1. Merrimack - \$163, 901
2. Hillsborough - \$141,486
3. Cheshire - \$140,055 (Q to C Region)
4. Sullivan - \$97,155 (Q to C Region)
5. Strafford - \$72,799
6. Belknap - \$71,368
7. Coos - \$35,202 (Upper Ammonoosuc/Israel Rivers)
8. Carroll - \$23,530
9. Grafton - \$13,491
10. Rockingham - 0

2 Million in Cancellations

1. 51 % - Financial/Medical Issues
2. 12% - Termination
3. 9% - Land Sold
4. 7% - Unforeseen Costs
5. 5% - Practice No Longer Needed
6. 3% - No Suitable Help/Contractor/TSP
7. 2% - Death of Participant
8. 2% - NRCS Error
- Other – 9%

Challenges – Contracts/employee

1. Connecticut – 43
2. New Hampshire – 42
3. Delaware – 38
4. Massachusetts – 38
5. Rhode Island – 37
6. Maine – 37
7. Arkansas – 31
8. Vermont – 31
9. Maryland – 31
50. Arizona - 9

Interesting New Hampshire Statistics

- Cropland decreased from 160,000 acres in 1982 to 110,000 acres in 2007. (USDA NRI)
- Developed land in NH nearly doubled from 387,000 acres to 696,000 acres between 1982 and 2007. (USDA NRI)
- In 2002, **929 million dollars** was spent in New Hampshire on agricultural related products supporting 11,600 jobs. (Impact of Ag on NH's Economy, Goss)